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Team Guide to ROBOTICON 2020

November 6-21, 2020

Updated November 9, 2020

Live Online on ROBOTICON [YouTube](#) and [Twitch](#)

Greetings ROBOTICON 2020 Teams!

We're so glad you're joining us for the grand experiment of ROBOTICON 2020 Online! ROBOTICON 2020 runs November 6-21, with Opening Ceremonies on Friday, November 6 at 6pm and Closing Ceremonies on Saturday, November 21 at 2pm. This guide covers everything happening in between!

This Guide to ROBOTICON 2020 includes:

- **Event Hopes and Expectations**
- **Livestreaming info for team matches and presentations**
- **Non-Robot Challenges**
- **Presentation Schedule – *Updated***
- **Game Night - *New***
- **Scavenger Hunt – *Updated***
- **Event Photos & Video - *New***
- **Event Contacts**
- **Social Media**
- **Full Event Schedule**

Hopes and Expectations

Our hope is that you and your students and ROBOTICON viewers will have fun, learn something new, and find inspiration and joy in this challenging time. We also hope things go smoothly, but because we've all had plenty of time now to experience the foibles of online meetings, classes and conferences, the expectation is that at some point, things may not go as expected. Connections will drop, cameras will fail, time schedules will be off, links will break.

When these things happen, as is likely they will on occasion, we hope you'll be patient and understanding and keep your Gracious Professionalism front and center. We will do our best to make sure every team gets their time in the spotlight, and every chance to run robots and participate however they can.

Please encourage family and friends to follow along on the ROBOTICON [YouTube](#) and [Twitch](#) channels, check out team and sponsor features on the [ROBOTICON website](#) and cheer teams on social media with [#ROBOTICONTB2020](#) and [#ROBOTICONLive](#) .

Livestreaming Info for Matches and Presentations

Robot related matches and skills challenges will take place on both weekends of ROBOTICON 2020. *FIRST* LEGO League, *FIRST* Tech Challenge, VEX and *FIRST* Robotics Competition teams will each receive a separate email with a “match schedule” identifying the times you’re assigned to run your robot, to the degree that you can, via our Livestream tournament experience. If you’re unable to run a robot, but would like to do a short workshop or presentation instead, showcasing your work, a research project, or some other aspect of your team experience, please let us know and we’ll schedule you accordingly.

For any team-based events:

- Teams should join the event (see links below) **no earlier than 15 minutes and no later than 5 minutes before your scheduled time.**
- **For showcase/skills:** Each team can have one camera. It can be a wide shot on your field, or it can be a point of view from your robot. Try to ensure that the view will be valuable for everyone watching, including those who may have never seen a robotics event before.
- **For presentations:** You may have one camera and one screen share. They can be the same device or from two separate devices.
- When you join the event, you will be asked for a name. **Please use your league abbreviation, team number and team name.** If your name is not correct, we may not be able to include it in the stream.
 - Examples: **FTC 2845 Team Duct Tape** or **FRC 5276 Edgar Allan Ohms.**
- Most phones will work for this. On iPhone, you must use Safari. On Android, you can use Chrome or Edge. On desktop, you can use just about any browser and a webcam.

Non-Robot Challenges

For students/teams entered in the following challenges/opportunities:

- [ROBOTICON Challenge](#)
- [CAD Challenge](#)
- [FIRST Tech Challenge Rookie Team Grant](#)

And for alumni participating in the:

- [NEXT Challenge](#)

Submission/application forms and for the [virtual dance party and music video parodies submissions](#) remain open. For those in the CAD Challenge, you’ll be contacted by ROBOTICON planning team member and CAD Challenge organizer, Bryan Bautista, with information on how the competition will proceed during the week.

For all other competitions, submissions will be reviewed over the next couple of weeks, with **winners announced during ROBOTICON 2020 Closing Ceremonies on November 21 , starting at 2pm.**

Presentation Schedule – *Updated 11/9*

Sponsors and program partners are sharing a wealth of interesting and instructive content throughout ROBOTICON 2020, most of it during weekday after school hours, with a couple on weekends. All of these are included in the attached ROBOTICON program and presented here as a single list with presenter information, to share with students and others. **Watch on [Twitch](#) or [YouTube](#).**

Saturday Nov 7 at 2pm

Robotics During COVID-19: A Guide to Safe Meetings

Presented by Palm Harbor University High School Robotics

Join PHUHS Robotics on November 7th at 2:00 pm to learn about the steps they took to work with their school and Pinellas County, FL so they could compete in their *FIRST* Tech Challenge program this year. Aabhas and Miles, President and Treasurer of PHUHS Robotics will go over the different safety measures they have implemented, discuss their effect on meetings, and answer any and all questions!

Links: phuhsrobotics.weebly.com , roboticsphush@gmail.com, Instagram: @roboticsphuhs

Tuesday Nov 10 at 6pm

Material Selection for ROBOTICON Builders

Presented by Dr. Les Kramer, PE with Advanced Materials Professional Services, LLC

Dr. Less Kramer

This talk discusses material selection considerations for robot construction. Dr. Kramer is a Florida Inventors Hall of Fame 2020 inductee. He holds 17 U.S. Patents and is Vice President of Engineering and Manufacturing at Tailor Made Prosthetics, LLC in Orlando, and a board member of the University of Central Florida's College of Sciences and Nanoscience Center who created a remarkably advanced carbon fiber composite prosthetic foot that has improved the lives of many amputees.

Links: <https://floridainvents.org/les-kramer/> - <https://tlmprosthetics.com>

Tuesday Nov 10 at 7pm

The Importance of Documenting Everything

Presented by Scott Ertz of PLUGHITZ Live

We all know that documenting your process and progress can be a pain. But, in the world of engineering, documentation can be the difference between a patent and a lawsuit. Let's discuss some of the reasons why documenting everything as it happens is essential. Links: <http://firstlooks.tv>

Wednesday Nov 11 at 5pm

Military & Robotics

Presented by The Florida High Tech Corridor (sponsor)

Paul Sohl, the new CEO of the Florida High Tech Corridor is a Retired Navy Rear Admiral, and in recognition of Veterans Day, will talk about his career in the Navy and the use of robots in the military.

Links: www.floridahightech.com

Wednesday Nov 11 at 6pm

RiSE! -- Robotics in Space Exploration

Presented by José Cotayo with MOSI (Tampa Museum of Science and Industry)

This presentation will provide an overview of the various ways that robotics helps drive our understanding of Space. We'll take a look at space exploration and how our robotic explorers have strengthened our knowledge of the Cosmos.

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Links: mosi.org @mositampa

Thursday Nov 12 at 6pm

Interview with Tampa Mayor Jane Castor at AMRoC

The Mayor of Tampa drops by for a visit to AMRoC Fab Lab and shares her thoughts on the importance of community based, early access to STEM education programs, girls in science and tech fields and more. You'll also get a behind the scenes look at AMRoC Fab Lab.

Thursday Nov 12 at 7pm

Resume Building

Presented by Ilene Rein with Pounding Pavement 101

Do you send your resume out and wonder why the phone is not ringing? Ilene Rein, President of Pounding Pavement 101 and Professional Recruiter shares the inside secrets on how a Recruiter searches for candidates and what you can do to exponentially increase your chances of getting noticed and hired rapidly! This workshop is for seasoned professionals, college graduates and students, and high school students applying to college and jobs.

Links:<https://poundingpavement101.com/>

Saturday Nov 14 at 11am

Introduction to Counterfeit Parts & Inspection Analysis

Presented by Chris Torrioni with Sensible Micro Corporation (Sponsor)

The threat of substandard and counterfeit parts entering the electronics supply chain grows ever year. Many Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) require obsolete parts to support active production needs. Being able to inspect and test parts accurately is vital to keeping supply chains safe. This workshop will focus on a brief introduction into how counterfeit parts get into the supply chain and how Sensible Micro utilizes industry recognized best practices to mitigate these risks. Links: SensibleMicro.com

Tuesday Nov 17 at 6pm

Hands-on STEM Learning & Skill Development in Varied Learning Environments

Presented by Libby Simpson, Education Director, FIRST

Learn more about how our global robotics community is continuing to provide education opportunities and create pathways to success for students in this time of uncertainty and explore the resources FIRST has developed to ensure each participant has a valuable, enjoyable experience, regardless of learning environment.

Tuesday Nov 17 at 7pm

Florida Resources: Who can Help?

Presented by FIRST Americorps VISTAs & FIRST Senior Mentors of Florida

Are you a FIRST team in need of help? Learn about who in your area can help and what resources VISTA and FIRST Senior Mentors provide in Florida.

Wednesday Nov 18 at 6pm

Innovation in Robotics Education and Competition - VAIC, RAD and VRAD

Presented by Robotics Education and Competition Foundation

This year we're excited to partner with the Robotics Education Competition (REC) Foundation, who will join us to discuss some of their newest program offerings, VEX AI Competition, RECF Aerial Drones Competition and Virtual Drones.

Links: <https://www.roboticseducation.org/rad/>

Thursday Nov 19 at 6:00 pm

Robotic Lawn Mowers by Scott Parker, of Mowbots

Mowbot the next generation electric lawnmower - lightweight, autonomous and using state-of-the-art safety features, including sensors and alarms. Join us to discover another application of robotics.

Thursday Nov 19 at 7pm

Curiosity, Creativity and Courage, or What It Takes to Become an Inventor

Presented by Florida Inventors Hall of Fame

Find out about the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame and some of our amazing inventors; learn about cool inventions patented by young people (Gerbil Vest, anyone?); and discover what it takes to become an inventor (hint: you probably already are one).

Links:

- Website: <https://floridainvents.org/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FloridaInvents/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/FloridaInvents>

Game Night! – Friday November 20, 8pm - *New*

Friday, November 20, at 8pm, we're having a ROBOTICON 2020 Online Game Night! Students can join us on Discord for family friendly online game time. We'll send out information to all coaches closer to the event night.

Scavenger Hunt - *Updated 11/9*

The **ROBOTICON 2020 Scavenger Hunt list** will be provided to teams and online viewers by Wednesday, November 11 and hopefully sooner. (*Apologies for the delay – as of this draft of the Team Guide we're still waiting on a few clues from program partners. But you'll be able to go back and find clues in previously recorded talks*) The goal is to find as many of the items on the list as possible during the two-week duration of ROBOTICON Online. Viewers will have to note the time and location of a find (what video or presentation they found it in) for their find to count. Whoever can find the most items by the end of ROBOTICON wins! There will be prizes!

Event Photos and Video - *New*

We've started a shared photo album here: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/mtza5Fogk5tmpgJt8> which you can add your photos to as well.

You can find recordings of matches, interviews and presentations on our [Twitch](#) and [YouTube](#) platforms.

And we've got a [Screen Shots Album on Facebook](#).

Event Contacts

- Terri Willingham – Lead event organizer – Terri@ffcdi.org
- Scott Ertz - PLUGHITZ Live, ROBOTICON livestream and media organizer – Scott@plughitz.com
- Bryan Bautista – CAD Challenge - minibcan@gmail.com
- Marissa Schiereck – FIRST Americorps VISTA – any FIRST related questions – Mschiereck@FIRSTInspires.org
- Kate Sample – FIRST Americorps VISTA – FIRST programs – Ksample@FIRSTInspires.org

Thank you again for being part of ROBOTICON 2020. Have Fun! Learn Something! Never Quit! And always be the kind of person Dr. Woodie Flowers believed you are!

With Virtual High Fives from All of Us on the ROBOTICON Planning Team!

Special Thanks this year's amazing event sponsors!

Lockheed Martin

Florida High Tech Corridor

Sensible Micro Corporation

Bay Area Manufacturing Association

SOFWERX

Digital Ocean

AFCEA

And our ROBOTICON Program Partners

PLUGHITZ Corporation

Studio 7 Communications

FIRST AmeriCorps VISTA

FIRST Alumni

And

The Foundation for Community Driven Innovation